

Message Text

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SUBJ: BENIN MEDIA ATTACKS SEC KISSINGER'S REMARKS TO SENATE
FINANCE COMMITTEE

REF A - COTONOU 167, B - COTONOU 134,

1. ALL BENIN RADIO NEWS BROADCASTS JAN 31 CARRIED AS A NEWS
ITEM A SCURRILOUS PROPAGANDA ATTACK ON SEC KISSINGER'S
REMARKS A FEW DAYS EARLIER IN CONNECTION TIWHT HEARINGS OF
THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE. EMBASSY'S TRANSLATION OF THE
ENTIRE ITEM FOLLOWS:

2 " IN FACE OF THE IRREVERSIBLE ASCENDENCY OF THE PROGRESSIVE
FORCES OF THE THIRD WORLD, THE CRUMBLING, MORIBUND IMPERIALISM,
SURROUNDED ON ALL SIDES, HAS ITS BACK UP AGAINST THE WALL.
THAT IS WHAT COMES OUT OF THE SPEECH YESTERDAY OF THE AMERICAN
SEC OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER WHEN HE SAYS, TALKING AABOUT
INTERNATIONAL COMMERCE, THAT THE
COUNTRIES OF THE THIRD WORLD MUST SHOW THEMSELVES TO BE MORE
COOPERATIVE TOWARDS THE UNITED STATES AT THE UN AND IN OTHER
INTERNATIONAL FORA. IT WAS WHILE ADDRESSING THE SENATE'S
FINANCE COMMITTEE, THAT MR HENRY KISSINGER STRESSED THAT THE
HOSTILITY OF THE REPS OF CERTAIN COUNTRIES OF THE THIRD WORLD
AND THE BLOCK-VOTING PRACTICE HAVE MADE DISCUSSION BETWEEN IN-
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DUSTRIAL AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE IN THE

FORUM OF THE UN. MR KISSINGER CONFIRMED HAVING GIVEN ORDERS TO THE AMERICAN EMBASSIES IN THE THIRD WORLD TO MAKE THE COUNTRIES CONCERNED UNDERSTAND THAT ONE OF THE FACTORS BY WHICH WE WILL MEASURE THE IMPORTANCE ATTACHED BY THESE GOVTS TO THEIR RELATIONS WITH US, WILL BE MADE UP BY THEIR PRONOUNCEMENTS AND MANNER OF VOTING ON A LIMITED NUMBER OF QUESTIONS WHICH WE CONSIDER IMPORTANT. CONCLUDING HIS SPEECH BEFORE THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE, WHILE RECOMMENDING EVEN CLOSER COMMERCIAL TIES WITH THE THIRD WORLD, MR KISSINGER EMPHASIZED THAT THE RADICALIZATION OF THE THIRD WORLD AND ITS CONSOLIDATION INTO AN ANTAGONISTIC BLOCK DOES NOT CORRESPOND WITH OUR (US) POLITICAL AND COMMERCIAL INTERESTS. COMRADE MILITANTS, AS YOU CAN OBSERVE THESE INTIMIDATING REMARKS, WHICH ARE IN REALITY DEFEATIST REMARKS, DO NOT FOOL ANYONE. THEY ARE EVEN A REFLECTION OF THE AGONY OF THE BARBARIC CAPITALIST SYSTEM OF WHICH HE (SEC KISSINGER) IS THE FAITHFUL AND AVID DEFENDER. IT IS ALSO PROOF THAT ONLY 'STRUGGLE' PAYS AND THAT THE PEOPLE OF THE THIRD WORLD MUST REDOUBLE THEIR VIGILANCE IN ORDER TO BREAK ONCE AND FOR ALL THE MYTH OF HEGEMONY."

3. COMMENT. THIS IS THE SECOND TIME IN FIVE DAYS THAT BENIN'S GOVERNMENT-RUN NEWS MEDIA HAVE ATTACKED THE SECRETARY OF STATE (SEE REF B). IT IS PART OF A GENERAL PATTERN OF ATTACKING THE UNITED STATES ON ALL FRONTS, BLAMING US FOR EVERYTHING. (SEE REF A FOR AMBASSADOR'S REVIEW OF THESE ATTACKS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER ALLADAYE ON JANUARY 30, WITH COMMENTARY). TWO OF THE PROPAGANDA THEMES THAT ARE EMERGING ARE (A) USA OPPOSES REFORM OF THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER, AND (B) USG IS PRACTICING BLACKMAIL THROUGHOUT THE THIRD WORLD.

4. IN HIS CALL ON DIRECTOR OF WEST EUROPE/NORTH AMERICA AT FOREIGN MINISTRY IN EXT DAY OR TWO, DCM WILL REVIEW THIS ATTACK AND NOTE THAT IT IS NOT AT ALL HELPFUL AT A TIME WHEN BENIN GOVERNMENT IS CALLING FOR IMPROVEMENT IN ITS RELATIONS WITH UNITED STATES. AMBASSADOR WILL ALSO GO OVER IT WITH FOREIGN MINISTER NEXT TIME HE GETS IN TO SEE HIM (WHICH IS SELDOM).
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